

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3647
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2008
REVAMP OF THE TOURISM WEBSITE
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the tourism industry is facing increasing competition from different countries in attracting foreign tourists;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to relocate tourism offices abroad;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether there is also proposal to revamp the Government's tourism website and making it more user friendly for wider access to tourism destinations; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a)&(b) : According to the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)'s world tourism barometer, international tourism arrivals expanded by 6% in 2007 with arrivals reaching close to 900 million. The fastest growing region is Asia and the Pacific and countries of this region are competing for larger numbers of the international tourist arrivals.

(c)&(d): No, Sir. However, a new Indiatourism office has been opened in Beijing (China) on 7th April, 2008.

(e)&(f): Maintenance and revamping of the website of Ministry of Tourism is an on-going process in order to make it updated and user friendly. Ministry of Tourism's website www.incredibleindia.org received the National Award for E-governance for best Government website in 2007.